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E.O. 11652: GDS: 12-31-80 TAGS: NATO, XG, ETRN

SUBJECT: CENTRAL EUROPE PIPELINE SYSTEM (CEPS) BUDGET FOR 1975

BEGIN SUMMARY. DRAFT 1975 CEPS BUDGET PROPOSED TO WORKING GROUP BY GENERAL MANAGER, CEOA, FORECASTS EXPRENSES OF FF 163 MILLION AND RECEIPTS OF FF 106 MILLION, LEAVING NET DEFICIT OF FF 57 MILLION, SOME FF 10.5 MILLION MORE THAN CURRENTLY ESTIMATED 1974 DEFICIT. WORKING GROUP, IN NEW PROCEDURE, SCREENED BUDGET IN FUNCTIONAL AREAS TO REPORT TO CEPPC ANOMALIES BETWEEN DIVISION EXPENDITURES IN VARIOUS NONPRODUCTIVE AREAS, LEAVING USUAL MINOR DELETIONS TO FULL COMMITTEE IN DEC MEETING. MISSION EXPECTS REPORT, COVERING GUARDING, PERSONNEL, TAXES, ADMINISTRATION, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND FUEL COSTS IN THE FOUR HOST COUNTRIES, TO BE AVAILABLE FOR USE BY PERMREPS IN THEIR MEETING OF 14 OCT ON NEW COST-SHARING FORMULA. END SUMMARY.

1. IN CONSONANCE WITH CEPPC DECISION DURING JUNE MEETING, BUDGET WORKING GROUP (HOFMAN, NETHERLANDS, FILLING IN FOR PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL

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CHAIRMAN, WITKO) MET IN VERSAILLES 1-4 OCT 74 TO CONSIDER 1975 CEPS BUDGET PRIOR TO PUBLICATION OF OFFICIAL PROPOSAL. CEPPC DESIGNED NEW PROCEDURE TO GIVE NATIONAL DELEGATIONS AN EXTRA MONTH TO PROPOSE MODIFICATIONS BEFORE FINAL APPROVAL OF BUDGET IN DECEMBER. GROUP WORKED FROM HAND DRAFT BUDGET DOCUMENTS AND CEOA WORKING PAPERS.

2. GENERAL MANAGER PROPOSED BUDGET OF FF 163 MILLION (CUT FROM FF 166 MILLION REQUESTED BY NATIONAL DIVISIONS), UP 18 PERCENT FROM 1974 REQUEST OF FF 140 MILLION. INCREASE IS DUE TO RISING SALARIES(FOR UNCHANGED PERSONNEL ESTABLISHMENT) AND INCREASING PRICES. REVENUES FOR 1974 HAVE FALLEN FF 10 MILLION SHORT OF PREDICTIONS. MOSTLY BECAUSE OF DECREASED CIVIL MOVEMENTS (FROM 8.8 TO 7.1 MILLION CUBINC METERS) IN FRG, THE NETHERLANDS, AND ACROSS NATIONAL BOUNDARIES. LE HAVRE-VALENCIENNES VOLUME WAS MAINTAINED AND LAVERA-STRASBOURG DECLINED FROM 2.4 TO 2.2 MILLION CUBIC METERS, MILITARY MOVEMENTS REMAINED CONSTANT AND STORAGE WAS INCREASED BY 7 PERCENT. GNERAL MANAGER FORECAST SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT IN CIVIL TRAFFIC FOR 1975 AND ESTIMATES INCREASE IN TOTAL REVENUES FROM FF 98 MILLION (108 MILLION FORECAST) IN 1974 TO FF 106 MILLION IN 1975 (AT CURRENT TARIFFS). NET DEFICIT WILL BE SOME FF 57 MILLION (\$11.5 MILLION), UP FROM FF 46.5 MILLION IN 1974 AND, IF TOLERATED, WILL OFFSET MOST OF ADVANTAGE GAINED BY REDUCING US SHARE TO 24 PERCENT.

3. GROUP DID NOT ENGAGE IN EXAMINATION OF USUAL MINUTIAE(RESULT-ING IN AVERAGE 2 PERCENT REDUCTION IN ANNUAL BUDGETS) BUT LEFT THAT TASK TO FULL COMMITTEE IN DECEMBER. MAIN EFFORT WAS CONCENTRATED ON PRINCIPAL BUDGET CHAPTERS OF PERSONNEL, OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, ADMINISTRATIVE OVERHEAD, AND CAPITAL EXPENSES. BY COMPARING THE OPERATING DIVISIONS WITHIN THOSE FUNCTIONAL AREAS THEY WERE ABLE TO HIGHLIGHT ANOMALIES CREATED BY VARIOUS NATIONAL PRACTICES AND REQUIREMENTS. SINCE REPORT IS TO BE FACTUAL, ALL MEMBERS

COOPERATED IN ARRIVING AT FOLLOWING COMPARISON OF ACTIVITIES, TOTAL EXPENDITURES, AND ANOMALIES.

FRANCE GERMANY NETHERLANDS BELGIUM

MOVEMENTS (MILLION KM/M3) 3,375 118 230 254

NUMBER OF DEPOTS 16 20 7 9

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PUMP STATIONS 45 28 15 15

PUMPING HOURS (000) 121 13 15 14

ADMIN OVERHEAD (FF 000) 7,420 4,367 676 547

TAXES - PROFITS (FF MILLION) 4

- VAT AND OTHER $7.41.00.20.2$

GUARDING (FF THOUSANDS) 6,629 7,208 1,177 1,165

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(FF THOUSANDS) 1,900 5,100 357 215

TOTAL COST (FF MILLION) 76.0 47.3 17.3 13.9

4. GROUP QUERIED CEOA ON POSSIBILITY OF REDUCING PERSONNEL COSTS WHICH H

ACCOUNT FOR 55 PERCENT OF BUDGET. GENERAL MANAGER AGREED THAT CETAIN LIGHTLY USED LINES WERE OVER-MANNED BUT PROBLEM WAS INSOLUBLE AS LONG AS

NATO MILITARY MAINTAINS REQUIREMENT FOR 36-HOUR READINESS.

AFCENT REP INDICATED THAT NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND CEPO WOULD STUDY REDUCTION OF CRITERIA FOR SUCH LINES IF STUDY SHOWS THAT THEY CONSTITUTE INORDINATE BURDEN ON USERS.

5. SINCE COSTS DID NOT APPEAR LIABLE TO SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION, GROUP TURNED TO TARIFFS AS ONLY METHOD TO REDUCE DEFICIT. CEOA WILL BE PROPOSING MILITARY TARIFF INCREASE AT DECEMBER MEETING OF CEPPC/CEPO: POSSIBLY AN INCREASE FOR STORAGE FROM 3 TO 3.25 UNITS OR MORE AND AN INCREASE OF 15-18 PER CENT IN MILITARY TARIFFS IN LINE WITH INCREASE IN COSTS. US MEMBER (LOVELAND) REQUESTED SIMULTANEOUS EFFORTS TO RAISE CIVIL TARIFFS. CEOA NOTED THAT MOST CONTRACT S

ALLOW REOPENING OF TARIFF QUESTION ON 1 JAN 75 AND THAT, IN ADDITION LE HAVRE-VALENCIENNES CONTRACT GIVES AUTOMATIC INCREASE FROM FF 4.50 TO 5.10 IN OCTOBER WHEN REDUCTION FOR ANTAR INVESTMENT CEASES. LOVELAND DREW ATTENTION TO NEED FOR 10 PERCENT OVERALL INCREASE IN REVENUE SIMPLY TO HOLD THE LINE AND SUGGESTED AN INCREASE CONFIDENTIAL

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OF AT LEAST 15 PERCENT.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO CEPPC/CEPO RELFECTING CONCLUSIONS OF WORKING GROUP IS DUE FOR DISTRIBUTION PRIOR TO MEETING OF PERMREPS ON 14 OCT ON COST-SHARING FORMULA. MISSION EXPECTS IT TO BE USEFUL IN SHOWING THAT FRANCE BENEFITS FROM SOME FF 11.5 MILLION IN TAX REVENUES AND LOADS THE EXPENSE WITH EXCESSIVE GUARDING AND ADMIN COSTS WHILE GERMANY LOADS THEM WITH GUARDING, ADMIN COSTS AND INFLATED TELECOMMUNICTIONS CHARGES. (GERMANY HAS ALSO THREATENED TO ADD FF 5.2 MILLION IN TAXES TO THE 1975 BUDGET.) MISSION WILL DISTRIBUTE REPORT TO WASHINGTON AGENCIES WHEN RECEIVED. MCAULIFFE

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